

The Director of Central Intelligence  
Washington, D.C. 20505

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National Intelligence Council

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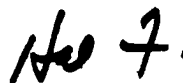
Dear Ossie:

Thank you for your letter of 28 November, with its proposed study plan, "Arms Control Verification Policy Questions." You asked for my frank personal comments. Here they are.

Anyone undertaking such a study faces two fairly formidable hurdles: (1) the subject has been much-visited, and (2) its intricacies cannot be addressed without access to highly classified information. Thus I feel that the proposed study's Introduction and Background are somewhat unnecessary because the history they relate would be very familiar to readers, and would at the outset cast a cloud on the worthwhileness of what is to come in the rest of the proposal. And, Question No. 1 cannot meaningfully be done on a non-classified basis.

Having been a purveyor of gloom thus far, I am pleased to remark that imaginative pursuit of Questions 2 and 3 might well yield results of value to academic, public, and official readers.

Sincerely,



Harold P. Ford

cc: Chrono  
Linc Gordon

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